

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.       A method comprising:  
2     receiving data from an application;  
3     creating a socket;  
4     associating the socket with an AF\_INET address family and performing a mapping  
5           between a socket API and an SDP layer if the application is a legacy application;

6           and

7     associating the socket with an AF\_IB address family and performing a mapping between  
8           the socket API and an IB verb if the application is a new application.

1           2.       The method of claim 1, further comprising providing the data to a channel  
2     adapter for transmission over an IBA fabric.

1           3.       The method of claim 1, wherein the application is a new application, the  
2     act of performing a mapping between the socket API and an IB verb comprising  
3     performing a mapping between the socket API and the SDP layer.

1           4.       A system comprising:  
2        a channel adapter coupled with an IBA fabric, the channel adapter to receive data from  
3        applications;  
4        a socket API to provide an interface with the applications; and  
5        an InfiniSock layer to provide an interface between the socket API and the channel  
6        adapter, the InfiniSock layer including an AF\_INET address family and an AF\_IB  
7        address family, the InfiniSock layer to provide a mapping between the socket API  
8        and an SDP layer for legacy applications and a mapping between the socket API  
9        and an IB verb for new applications.

1           5.       The system of claim 4, further comprising a socket, the socket associated  
2        with one of the AF\_INET address family and the AF\_IB address family.

1           6.       The system of claim 4, the InfiniSock layer to provide a mapping between  
2        the socket API and the SDP layer for a new application.

1           7. An article of manufacture comprising:

2       a machine accessible medium providing content that, when accessed by a machine,

3       causes the machine to

4       receive data from an application;

5       create a socket;

6       associate the socket with an AF\_INET address family and perform a mapping

7           between a socket API and an SDP layer if the application is a legacy

8           application; and

9       associate the socket with an AF\_IB address family and perform a mapping

10           between the socket API and an IB verb if the application is a new

11           application.

1           8. The article of manufacture of claim 7, wherein the content, when accessed,

2       further causes the machine to provide the data to a channel adapter for transmission over

3       an IBA fabric.

1           9. The article of manufacture of claim 7, wherein the application is a new

2       application and the content, when accessed, further causes the machine to perform a

3       mapping between the socket API and the SDP layer.

1           10. A network comprising:

2       an IBA fabric;

3       a first system coupled with the IBA fabric, the first system including

4           a channel adapter coupling the first system with the IBA fabric, the channel

5           adapter to receive data from applications resident on the first system,

6           a socket API to provide an interface with the applications, and

7           an InfiniSock layer to provide an interface between the socket API and the

8           channel adapter, the InfiniSock layer including an AF\_INET address

9           family and an AF\_IB address family, the InfiniSock layer to provide a

10          mapping between the socket API and an SDP layer for legacy applications

11          and a mapping between the socket API and an IB verb for new

12          applications; and

13       a second system coupled with the IBA fabric.

1           11. The network of claim 10, the applications of the first system including a

2       legacy application and a new application.

1           12. The network of claim 10, the second system including a legacy

2       application.

1           13. The network of claim 10, the second system including a new application.

14. The network of claim 10, the second system comprising:

- 2 a channel adapter coupling the second system with the IBA fabric, the channel adapter to
- 3 receive data from applications resident on the second system;
- 4 a socket API to provide an interface with the applications; and
- 5 an InfiniSock layer to provide an interface between the socket API and the channel
- 6 adapter, the InfiniSock layer including an AF\_INET address family and an AF\_IB
- 7 address family, the InfiniSock layer to provide a mapping between the socket API
- 8 and an SDP layer for legacy applications and a mapping between the socket API
- 9 and an IB verb for new applications.